OFFICIAL ANNUUNCEMENT MADE

BY THE NAVY DEPARTMENT.

Flying Squadron Which Will Include the

Battlechtps Oregon and Lowa Has Been On

dered to the Spanish Coast Ender Command

of Commeders Watson, Who Will Blee the

Cruteer Newark as Hits Plagable-The Auto-

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York Navat Militin, and the Resemble and

Biris Have Also Been Selected Annihor

and Equally Strong Squadron May Pollows.

WASHINGTON, June 27 .- When the Navy De-

partment announced to-day that a squadrem

under Commodore J. C. Watson wante be sent

to Spain, a great many people regarded it as m

bluff. They said that if the department really

contemplated such an offensive programme

the fact would not be spread broadcast through

the press. Those people were mistaken. Com-

modore Watson's squadron will go to

Spain to de business, and will go soon. Is:

is the intention of the Navy Department

to send it to the Mediterranean without regard

to whether Admiral Camara's reserve fleet com-

tinues its course toward the Philippines or re-

turns to home waters. That the department has

other plans of a character more radical is an-

parent from disclosures made to-day. The india

cations are that a second squadron, stronger

than Watson's, will go to augment him in a

THE SUN has told from time to time about

partment decided that a formidable naval

force should be organized for carrying the

war into the home waters of the east

emy. Everything has been arranged for

perfecting the plan. Commodore Watson was

chosen to be commander-in-chief of the new

Showers and thunderstorms; coolers westerly winds.

Advance Only 4 Miles Away on Sunday.

HURRYING ON THE BIG GUNS.

Simultaneous Attack by Our Army and Fleet Expected.

on Scotts Are a Mile Abend of the Army Within a M.le and a Half of the City's Defences-Some Artillery Already at the Front -Widoning the Read to Six Feet for the Panage of Cannon-6,000 Cubans Co-operating with Wo-A Part of Garcia's Forces Guarding Sends Soth East and West of the City to Wend Off Spanish Reinforcements-12,000 Spanish Troops in Santingo-They Are Working Hard on the Portifications, but Ammunition is Short and Food is Run ning Low-One Army Is in Good Health. Secolal Cable Desputch to Tan Sen.

SIBONEY, near Santiago de Cuba, June 20.-It is very probable that by the time the readers of THE SUN see this despatch the entire American army of inwasion in Cuba will be marching upon the doomed city of Santiago, and it is expected that by 8 or 9 o'clock on Tuesday morning the troops will be almost within hailing distance of their objective point. This is likely to be the case if there is no sudden change in the plan of campaign, of which there is now no evidence.

As told in the despatches to THE SUN, 8,000 troops, American and Cuban, occupied Sevilla on Saturday. Gen. Wheeler was in command there and with him were Gens. Chaffee, Young and Lawton. At 6 o'clock on Sunday morning the advance guard of the Americans was pushed forward about three miles, halting and camping near San Juan, on the Guamo, about four miles from Santiago. The advance was led by the Seventh Regular Infantry, commanded by Col. Benham.

Later the entire First Brigade, under Gens. Wheeler and Strong, moved forward and camped within two miles of the place occupied by the Seventh Infantry. Included in this brigade is the Second Massachusetts Volunteers.

The Seventy-first New York Volunteers are still at Siboney, not yet having received orders to advance. They assisted in the landing of a part of the heavy artillery there. Hoosevelt's rough riders are still in the camp that they pitched after their akirmish with the enemy on Friday, when Capt. Capron, Capt. Luna, and Sergeant Hamilton Fish and others were killed.

The Cuban troops, whose knowledge of the country is not equalled by the Spaniards themselves, are fully a mile ahead of the most advanced Americans. They are in camp only a mile and a half from a Spanish outpost in the San Luis hills, a short distance east of Santiago. The Cubans occaalonally exchange shots with the enemy, but this is more in the way of diversion than in the hope of doing any damage, as the range is too great for either side to do

.Heavy artillery is being landed to-day at Baiquiri. The task of landing these guns is very great with the meagre facilities at hand. The work, however, is progressing as rapidly as possible. The guns will be forwarded quickly to-morrow. The whole movement depends upon the arrival of the heavy artillery at the front, as the army will not be allowed to attack the city and its outer defences until the guns arrive. The delay thus far has been due entirely to the time involved in getting the artillery ashere. Some of the guns are already well on their way to the front, and four batteries and a Gatling gun have arrived there.

Gen. Wheeler and Gen. Strong and their officers are chafing at the delay. Were it not that Gen. Shafter had issued an emphatic order instructing them not to do so they would | the city. probably have attempted to carry the city by assault before this. Gen. Shafter, however, insisted that no useless risks should be taken. He evidently intends that what work he has to do shall be done most thoroughly, and he is not taking any chances of giving the enemy even a semblance of a who desire to quickly attack the city, big guns or not, have no weight with him. The understanding is that the guns will be ready for use to-morrow.

All the army, with the exception of the First Brigade, is camped in the hills between Balquiri and Siboney. All the men are anxious for the fighting to begin. Their spirit is excellent, despite the hardships and drudgery of campaigning in such a country as this, and this argues well for the success of the attack when it is made.

It cannot be definitely learned whether Gen. Shafter intends to take Santiago by assault or compel the capitulation of the place by besieging it. It is likely, however, that a simultaneous attack will be made by the army and Admiral Sampson's

The correspondent of THE SUN to-day

a fine view could be had of the entire city and all the inner harbor. From the Spanish hospital in the town was flying the flag of the Red Cross Society, to prevent the building being fired upon by the Americans. This is the first time this flag has ever been used by the Spaniards. It goes without saying that it will be respected by the Americans, though there are many of the latter who believe it would receive places. scant respect from the Spaniards were the conditions reversed.

The enemy were busily engaged in strengthening the defences of the town, though it was evident that some of their work had been commenced too late, they apparently having waited until they knew from which side the attack would come. There is no doubt that the enemy sadly miscalculated the time the Americans would require to reach the city. They have found that their manana policy is not followed by the Yankees, with the result that the Americans are now almost at their city before all the defences are com-

operations. He climbed a hill from which | wounded officer was taken back to the city in a carriage, he must have been of very high rank.

> The negroes confirm the report that there are 12,000 soldiers in Santiago, and that 4,000 others are near by. They declare that ammunition in the city is running low, and that this is causing so much anxiety that the matter is discussed by military men in the cafés and other public

The possibility was suggested to Gen. Garcia to-day, in the presence of THE SUN correspondent, of the Spanlards making a deteur with the object of coming up behind the Americans and attacking them in the rear when the Americans attack the city. Gen. Garcia said that the outside limit of the Spanish force in and near Santiago was 14,000 men. Of these, 4,000 are sick, and of the rest not more than 3,000 could be spared for such a manosuvre as the one suggested. The others were absolutely necessary to man the fortifications and trenches. Therefore there was no danger of the enemy attempting an attack from the rear.



OUR ADVANCE TO SANTIAGO.

On Saturday last our advance force occupied Sevilla. On Sunday afternoon the advance force was at San Juan, on the Guama River, only four miles from Santiago. The entire First Brigade was within two miles to the east, and the rest of the army was on route, pressing toward the front A shows the position of a considerable force of our Cuban allies, a mile nearer Santiago. B is the position of the Spanish San Luis battery, a mile and a naif from Santiago. This

outtery in particular threatens the road along which our army is advancing. CC shows the approximate position of Spanish intrenchments on the north, e ast, and south

Our heavy artillery was being landed both at Balquiri and Siboney.

From the position taken by THE SUN correspondent a number of soldiers could be seen working upon the fortifications, and new intrenchments were being built. At one point the garrison of an outpost, numbering probably 300 men, were trying to erect a battery of good-sized guns. The work had not progressed very far. Men from a blockhouse there were also being employed in intranching the road.

The negroes who escaped from Santiago and were caught by Gen. Wheeler's men. as told of in yesterday's despatches to THE Sun, said that, in addition to the great scarcity of food in Santiago, the Spanlards are badly scared by the rapid approach of the Americans. Almost a reign of terror prevails in the town, where it is believed that 40,000 American troops have landed and are marching on the city. All sorts of tales are told of how the Americans are acting. One story has it that they are picking up Cubans as they go and are forcing them to carry guns and to fight in the front. The women of the city are absolutely terror stricken because of the tales that are told regarding the cruelties and outrages perpetrated by the hated Yan-

The Spaniards tell the Cubans that all who leave the city will be killed by the Americans. They add that the Cubans who left the city to foin the American army were all shot as soon as they got in range of the Yankee guns. They also declare that the Americans are killing pacificos, men, women, and children. The betstories are false and are doing their best to counteract them. They are not very successful, however, as the Spaniards claim to have absolute proof of the stories they

The negroes, four of whom were captured instead of two, as reported in yesterday's despatches, also said that the Spaniards were working hard to strengthen the fortifications, especially the San Luis battery,

The negroes added that the soldiers who fought the rough riders on Friday were not in ambush, as the Americans thought, but were retreating and were overtaken by Col. Wood's men. When they heard the Americans approaching, they thought that they were being pursued, and turned and victory. The suggestions of the hotheads fired upon the Americans. They then retreated again toward the city, still firing as they went.

> When asked how many of the Spaniards had been killed, the only answer the negroes gave was "Many, many," with a sweep of their hands over a company of American soldiers standing near, indicating that that number had met their death in the combat with the rough riders,

"How many were wounded?" was next asked, to which the negroes responded with the same "Many, many," sweeping their hands over half a regiment. They could not or would not give any figures. "Were any officers killed or wounded?"

was then asked. "The commander was wounded," the

negroes said, adding: "He was a great officer, for the Spaniards took him to Santiago in a carriage."

took a look over the field of the coming | The Cuban soldiers say that, if the

When questioned regarding the possibility of the Spaniards receiving reinforce ments, Gen. Garcia said that there was no chance of their doing so. Every road leading to the city is held by the Cubans, who were put there for the particular purpose of preventing any accession to the Spanish strength in the town.

In the face of the innumerable details which have claimed his attention since the flotilla of transports came to anchor off the Cuban coast, Gen. Shafter has not for an instant lost sight of the paramount importance of our Cuban allies in the operations against Santiago. With a view of availing himself to the utmost of the peculiar services for which they are especially fitted, he has had frequent conferences with Gen. Garcia and the other insurgent ers. A programme has been mapped out with their complete concurrence, in compliance with which several changes of base have been made, all tending to bring the Cubans into closer touch with the attacking army and Shafter's headquarters.

The main portion of Garcia's men have been threatening Santiago on the west. To-day they are being landed at Juraguasito, a little west of Siboney. They number about 2,000 men, and four of the American troopships were detailed to make the transfer. As fast as they are put ashore they are marched to Juragua, where there is already an insurgent force of about the same strength. Thus there will be concentrated within immediate reach of headquarters, counting in the scouts and skirmishers at the head of the column, a Cuban force of fully 4,000 men, practically all the fighting insurgents near the city of Santlago de Cuba.

In addition to the thorough system of American outposts with which Gen. Shafter is protecting the line of march and all the important positions which he designs to occupy, it is his plan to reinforce these outposts in every quarter with strong detachments of Cubans, thus taking advantage of their knowledge of the country and the skill acquired in long months of bush-

whacking warfare against the Spaniards. It is known that the Spaniards under Gen. Pareja at Calmanera, near Guantanamo, will make desperate efforts to retreat to Santlago. This force numbers 3,000 men. A force of Cubans equally as large holds the roads leading from Guantanamo, and it is believed that it will be impossible for Gen. Pareja to cut his way through,

Meanwhile the marines and the warships in Guantanamo Bay are constantly harassing Gen. Pareja's force and threatening them with annihilation.

The strategic importance of Guantanam Bay and of the base established at Camp McCalla by the landing of our marines becomes apparent when the situation at Baiquiri and Juraguasito to the west in considered. Both of these places are merely open roadsteads affording good anchorage fair weather, but a storm would cut off communication between the fleet and the shore. Moreover it would be dangerous work for the transports to attempt to ride out a gale in such an exposed position, while at the best bad weather would cut off communications only temporarily with the army.

It is against just such a contingency that

the importance of Guantanamo Bay has recommended itself to the American au thorities. The bay affords perfect shelter and abundant anchorage room for all the ships, with the additional advantage that the warships can coal there at their leisure in all sorts of weather.

With this in mind steps are being taken to strengthen our position at Camp McCalla and effectually forestall the possibility of a successful movement against it on the part of the Spanish.

The report of the negroes that the Spanlards in Santiago are short of ammunition is confirmed from two other sources. There is little doubt that the Spaniards are in desperate condition.

To-day Gen. Garcia received a cable de spatch from Gen. Miles saying:

"We are enthusiastic over your conduct. Warmest congratulations." Gen. Garcia also received another de

spatch from Gen. Miles, as follows : "Please answer officially your acceptance

of plans and promise of co-operation." Gen. Garcia replied.

"The Cuban army under me can always be depended upon to cooperate under your direction."

The force commanded by Gen. Garcia is ncreasing in strength daily. Recruits are constantly coming in, and as soon as they are armed they are sent to the field. Most of the recruits are despatched in the direction of Guantanamo to help hold back Gen. Pareja's troops if they attempt to reinforce Gen. Linares in Santiago. Gen. Garcia's headquarters are now at Siboney, but he will move to-morrow to San Juan, four miles from Santiago.

Gen. Shafter still maintains his headquarters on the steamer Seguranes, but he will move with the army.

Gen, Garcia is enthusiastic in his support of the Americans. It seems that there is nothing in his power that he is unwilling to do to show his appreciation of the aid the United States is giving to achieve Cuban Independence. He has issued orders that any Cuban who charges any American for any service, or who accepts any money from the Americans, shall be shot.

The Spanish residents of towns where the American and Cuban armies are in camp will be permitted to remain without being harmed, but they must work to aid in widening the roads to Santiago. The roads are now only four feet wide. The carriages of the heavy guns are six feet wide, and the roads must be widened to allow their passage. This is the main reason for the delay h. the operations.

So far the health of the army has been good. To-day the engineers and doctors decided to burn the hospitals and all buildings suspected of being centres of contagion. To-night many buildings here and at Balquiri are blazing, lighting up the surrounding country. The railroad roundhouse here has been converted into a general hospital. Most of the wounded rough riders are doing well, but several of them will die of the effects of their injuries.

The chief complaint of all the soldiers is the scarcity of supplies. This scarcity is caused by the slow work of unloading the transports. A high sea is running, which makes it difficult to handle the small boats, many of which have been smashed.

Two Spanish soldiers walked into camp here to-day and gave themselves up. They said that they were tired of the Spanish Army, where they received no money and no food. The Cubans believed they were sples and wanted to shoot them, but the Americans would not permit it. Precautions have been taken, however, to prevent the men, if they are spies, from taking information to the enemy. They are kept under a close guard, and no opportunity will be afforded them to escape.

CORRESPONDENTS IN DANGER.

Mr. Marshall's Critical Condition-Have Tw Reporters Boon Captured ? Special Cable Despatch to Tan Bun.

SIBONEY near Santiago de Cuba, June 26 .- Edward Marshall, the correspondent who was severely wounded during the fighting on Friday near Sevilla, is still on the hospital ship Olivette. His condition is about the same. The physicians hold out little hope of his recovery.

Two correspondents, one representing Boston paper and the other a Cincinnati journal, are reported to have been captured by the Spaniards. They have been missing now for two days. The correspondent of THE SUN thinks it better, in order to save their friends from anxiety, not to give their names until it is learned definitely whether they are in the hands of the enemy.

THIS RUSSIAN THREATENS US. We Will Not Se Permitted to Sembard Spanish Const Towns.

Special Cable Despatch to Tax Box Paris, June 27 .- A Russian correspondent of the Figure, referring to the uneasiness feit in St. Petersburg over the Spanish outlook, represents Russia as not being pleased with the prospect of the United States taking the Philipwhile, the correspondent says, she will hardly, if at all, brook an American incursion

The sending of a squadron to bombard Spansh coast cities might lead to the most serious consequences. The threat of sending a squad-Spain has already resulted change of views by the powers. If it is repeate it will lead to a declaration analogous to the Monroe doctrins.

Sitvein Confere with the Queen Regent Special Cable Desputch to Tax ave.

Madrid, June 27.—Señor Silvela, the leader of the Conservatives, had a conference with the Queen Regent to-day,

WATCHING FOR CERVERA

ALL OUR BIG SHIPS ARE CLUS-TERED OFF SANTIAGO.

The Texas, lows and Oregon Are Less Than Pour Miles from the Enemy's Cunt-Twee Gusboate Guard Back Army Landing and the St. Louis Is on Buty at Sibency-Enrly on Sunday Morning the Vecuvius Woke Up Santiage with Three Mere Suncotten Shells.-The " Earthquake Thrower" Blow Another Chunk Out of the Western Battery,

Special Cable Despatch to Tan Bus.

SIBONEY, NEAR SANTIAGO DE CUBA. JUDA 26.—Extraordinary precautions have been taken to prevent the escape of Admiral Cervera's squadron since it was learned that the wreck of the Merrimac does not completely block the Santiago channel. Admiral Sampson's fleet now off Santiago comprises the New York, Iowa, Oregon, Massachusetts, Texas, New Orleans, Detroit, Brooklyn, Helena, Machias, Scorpion, Gloucester, Suwance, Hornet, Dupont, Porter, Eriesson, and Vesuvius. Two gunboats are guarding each army landing, and the auxiliary cruiser St. Louis is at Siboney. The health of the men of the fleet is perfect.

All the big ships of the flest are kept on duty far off shore. Some of them are standing off six miles from the entrance of the harbor. The Texas, Iowa and Oregon are less than four miles off. The small vessels are much closer in shore.

The Suwanes, Capt. Delahanty, to-day ran in within a mile and a half of the entrance and paraded up and down in front of Morro Castle and in front of all the land batteries for hours, but could not draw the enemy's fire. The Spaniards, however, could be seen standing at their guns.

At 1 o'clock this morning the dynamite cruiser Vesuvius, which the Spaniards, since they have learned her awful destructive power, call the "earthquake thrower," was ordered to creep up close to the entrance to Santiago harbor and throw three more of her shells, each of which weighs 500 pounds. The moon was shining brightly, but the high hills along the coast threw a long shadow seaward, and into this the Vesuvius crept unseen by the enemy. She steamed along until she was within 600 yards of Morro Castle. Then she stood boldly out into the open sea and swung around so that her guns bore on the shore.

In a little while was heard the "cough" of one of her pneumatic guns, and the first shell went sailing over the crest of the hill on the east or city side of the entrance. A moment after the shell had left the gun there was a mighty crash, as of thunder, and a flash of light lit the heavens for miles. It seemed to those who watched the shot as if the whole south side of Cuba had been blown up. The shot caused great excitement ashore. Lights were seen immediately flashing in and around Morro Castle, and in the moonlight men were visible running about in a most excited manner. It as thought that the enemy would open fire on the Vesuvius, but there was no

The Vesuvius moved swiftly along and two other shells were thrown quickly, one at the western battery and the other over the battery. The noise and flash of the explosions were terror-inducing. Then the Veauvius, moving at a highrate of speed, ran out of range of the enemy's guns.

At daylight it was seen that the second shell had blasted another chunk out of the western battery, part of which was in ruins. Plenty of guns remain there, however. The effect of the third shell could not be seen

After the Vesuvius had reached a place of safety the other ships moved up and continued their monotonous task of watching for Admiral Cervera's fleet. The rest of the night was quiet.

To-day some of the smaller ships shelled the coast near the army camps. This was merely precautionary work to make the neighborhood unsafe for stray Spaniards.

OUR MARINES AT CAMP M'CALLA

They Are Auxious for Orders to Capture the Spanish Garrison at Calmaners. Special Cable Despatch to THE SUR

SIBONEY, near Santiago de Cuba, June 26.—The First Battalion of marines at Camp McCalla, Guantanamo Bay, are displaying the greatest anxiety to march upon and capture the Spanish garrison at Calmanera. They say that, with the help of the Cubans, they can easily do it in half a day, but as yet the army and navy officers refuse to give their consent. The men are anxious to wreak vengeance on the Spaniards for the death of their comrades, and they will receive orders to move against Caimanera with enthusiasm.

There is no sickness among the marines. Those of the battalion who were wounded are now nearly well, and will be in condition to fight again soon,

Foreign Warships to Most Bowey. Special Cubic Despatches to Two Buy.

BERLIN, June 27 .- The German cruiser Prinsea Wilhelm arrived at Menils on Monday last VIENNA, June 27. - The Austrian corvette Frundabers arrived at Singapore on June 24. She will proceed to Manila.

Our Transports Not Yot at Mantle. Special Cable Bespaich to Tun Sun. Manila, June 23, via Hong Kong, June 27,-As yet none of the transports conveying reinforcements to Admiral Dewey has arrived

CAMARA IN THE CANALY TO ATTACK SPAIN'S PORTS. He Has Been Ordered to Go to Surp.-Where

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUR.
MADRID, June 27.—Orders have been sent to

Admiral Camara to go through the canal to Sues. It is supposed that his squadron is now in the canal.

Seffor Aunon, Minister of Marine, gives emphatic denial to the statement that the warships of Admiral Camara's fleet were lightered by the removal of their guns, &c., in order that they might pass through the Sucz Canal.

Great Britain is regarded as being responsible for Egypt's opposition to Admiral Camara coal ing the vessels of his squadron at Suez Canal ports. The Government and naval and military cers are greatly displeased, but Sefer Augon. Minister of Marine, professes to hope that the coaling of the vessels will be arranged, because the Spanish Transatlantic Steamship Company has depots at Aden, Colombo, and Singapore, and Great Britain, to whom these three ports belong, has not declared coal contraband.

Elsewhere it is declared that Egypt's attitude will be made a protext for recalling the squadron with the idea of checking American

aggression. LONDON, June 27 .- It is believed that the conference on Saturday between Lord Salisbury and Ambassador Hay related to the coaling of Admiral Camara's squadron, but nothing positive has been learned regarding the matter. The subject will be brought before the House of Commons to-morrow, when Mr. James H. Dalziel will ask whether arrangements were made with the agents of an English firm at Port to supply the Spanish warships coal, and whether in view of

Great Britain's neutrality proclamation pre-

with

very short time. cautions had been taken to insure their only receiving enough coal to enable them to reach the nearest Spanish port. the consideration given by the Neval Was PORT SAID. June 27 .- Upon the application of Board to the question of despatching a strong the United States Consul the Egyptian Governsquadron to Spanish waters. When it was rement will not permit Admiral Camara's fleet to coal at Suez Canal ports until further orders. ported to this Government that Camara's fleeb was bound for the Philippines the Navy De-

Rows, June 27 .- The Agencia Liberal asserts that Italy has privately informed Spain that Admiral Camara's squadron will on no account be allowed to coal at any of the Italian ports on the Red Sea.

A BACE TO MANILA, MATBE. Son. Morritt Watching Camara's Ficet-The

Third Espedition Salis SAN FRANCISCO, June 27.-The third Manile expedition sailed this afternoon, the Indiana leading and the Morgan City; Ohio, and City of Para following. Thousands on the piers cheere then the anchors were weighed and the steam whistles announced the departure of the vessels. Gen, Merritt will leave on the Newport on Wednesday, as he is convinced that it will be race to Manila between the transports and Camara's fleet. The transports which sailed today had instructions to remain at Honolulu no onger than was absolutely necessary. They will proceed to Manila as if Gen. Merritt were not to accompany them. The Newport will get away early on Wednesday. It is possible that the Valencia will sail to-morrow, but the present plan is to have her leave with the Newport. If they go together they will arrive in Honolulu only a few hours after the first ships of the ex pedition, and will hurry their departure for Manila.

Although there are reasons for believing that the Spanish fleet now at the Suez Canal will be recalled, the Government does not desire to take any chances. Gen. Merritt and his officers held long consultation on this subject to-day and did some telegraphing to Washington, from where they received information to convince them that, if Manila is really the destination of the Spanish fleet, the latter can beat the Ameri can transports by at least two days, and migh make it interesting to the troops aboard the American ships. Gen. Merritt is determined to rush this expedition and avoid danger.

WASHI GTON, June 27.—The Government has closed a contract with the Pacific Mail Steam ship Company for the use of the transpacific liner Peru as a transport. This, with the City of Puebla, chartered several days ago, forms a good nucleus of a fleet of transports to be obtained for the next expedition to the Philippine Islands. Capt. Hecker, who has charge of all negotiations for transports, is considering other vessels on the Pacific coast which may be chartered to sail with the Puebla and Peru.

SPAIN'S TRIED SQUADRON. Workmen Are Patching Up the Vessels as Fast

Special Cable Despatches to THE SUS. Madrid, June 27.—A despatch from Cadiz mays the Spanish ironclad Vitoria and the cruiser Alfonso XII, have left Caraca Arsenal The new cruiser Isla de Cuba is having her guns mounted and a hundred additional workmen are hastening the work on the Princesa de

Asturias. The Duke of Najara, Military Governor of Cadis, reports that the batteries at Puerte Santa Maria and Rots, respectively to the northeast and northwest of Cadiz, are in a very satisfactory condition with the exception of three guns at Rota, which are defective. It has been decided to mount four additional guns be tween Rota and Candelaria as a precaution against American invasion, of which the au horities are apprehensive.

GIBRALTAR, June 27 .- The third Spanish quadron, consisting of the Vitoria, Alfonso XII., Numancia, Lepanto, Cardenal Cisnero and the former North German Lloyd steamer Havel, has been ordered to assemble at Cadir with the least possible delay. Admiral Barrosa will command the squadron.

PEACE MOVEMENT IN CATALONIA clares That It Is in Payor of Peace.

Special Cable Desputches to THE SUN. MADRID, June 27 .- The peace movement in Catalonia continues to gain strength. The Chamber of Commerce of Barcelona, which has hitherto held aloof from the agita tion in favor of peace, has now resolved to inform the Government that it is in favor of peace. The step was doubtless prompted by a realization that order and secur ity are threatened by the impending enforced idleness of many workingmen through the economic crisis. Industry is throttled, and factories continue to close.

A commission composed of the Alcalde of Barcelons, the provincial members of the Chamber of Deputies, and several manu have arrived in Madrid. Prime Minister Sagasta will accord them an The commission will Dropose that certain public works which can be paid for out of the local resources be undertaken forthwith without the ordinary official circumlocu

NO PRACE JUST YET. Says She Will Ask for Mediation Only

After a Decisive Defeat. Special Cuble Desputches to THE BUS.

LONDON, June 27 - The latest peace talk is contributed by the Vienna correspondent of the Chronicle, who says he has learned from an authoritative source that Spain was unofficially sounded as to whether she was prepared to sak for peace. The reply was that she would only request mediation after a decisive defeat. Hitherto she had seen no reason to ask for the good offices of the powers.

Madrid, June 27. - Duke Almodovar de Rio Minister of Foreign Affairs, reiterates that the reports of peace negotiations are unfounded. Heavy Shipments from Poland

cods of Poland water arrive daily at the New depot, 5 Fark place, near Broadway. -- Ada.

formation, and the vessels composing it were selected with special reference to their speed and steaming radius. It was the intention to postpone the actual formation of the squadron until the Spanish ships under Camara had passed into the Suez Canal. Many officers believed that Camara would not go further than Port Said, the canal's western entrance, and looked on the flying squadron scheme as something that would never be brought to bead. A sudden change in the department's determination came to-day, when official news was received that Camars was preparing to take his vessels through the canal. It was decided not to wait for a continued eastern novement of Camara before organizing the squadron, but to direct the formation immediately and send it to Spain without regard to

whether Camara remained at Port Said or re-

turned to Carthagena or Cadiz. In other

words, the flying squadron is point to the

enefuy's country to carry out an offensive programme. Camara's return will nos change the determination to inflict nunishment on the Spanish at home. Before the manœuvres contemplated by the Government are concluded it is the hope of the Administraion that several Spanish ports will be badly damaged and Camara's fleet destroyed. That is the work out out for Commodore Watson and another flag officer who will command a second squadron. When President McKinley had ap-

announced the fact in an official bulletin as fol-"Commodore Watson sails to-day in the cruiser Newark to join Admiral Sampson at Santiago, where he will take under his command an armored squadron, with cruisers, and pre-

proved the recommendation of the War Board

that the flying squadron be formed immediated

and sent to Spain without delay the department

ceed at once to the Spanish coast." Shortly thereafter this statement was given to

THE SUN by the Bureau of Navigation: "Commodore J. A. Howell is assigned to the ommand of the first squadron of the North

Atlantic fleet. "Commodore W. S. Schley is assigned to the ommand of the second squadron of the North

Atlantic fleet. "Commodore John C. Watson is assigned to the command of the Eastern squadron. The Eastern squadron will be composed of the following vessels: Flagship Newark, battleship Iowa, battleship Oregon, cruiser Yosemite, cruiser Yankee, cruiser Dixie, and the colliers Scindia, Abarenda and Alexander. This squadron will sail for the coast of Spain shortly."

Subsequent to this another official bulleting was posted in which it was said that "this squadren will sail for the coast of Spain immediately." Although very frank in its announcements, the department did not take the public into its confidence fully. Its plan is much broader than generally understood. While it sannot be said definitely that a second squadron will follow Watson's, that appears to be the present intention, and the indications are that it will be much stronger than that officially designated as the Eastern. The name of Rear Admiral Sampson is being considered in connection with the command of the combined fleet, It appears probable that after the Porto Rico has fallen, he will take to the Mediterranean strong force of naval vessels, including armorclads, protected cruisers, and auxiliaries. Under the plan in contemplation he will have the co-operation of Commodore Watson in bombarding Spanish forts and in running down Camara's fleet. The probabilities are that after both squadrons have inflicted dame age to Spanish interests in the Mediterranean, one squadron will take up Camara's trail. whether or not he has gone into the Pacific, while the other will guard against the chance of his escape back to Spain. The scheme is to cutch Camara between the two divisions and destroy his ships, as Dowey destroyed the Spanish fleet in Manila Bay. It is to teach Spain by radical means that her struggle with the United States is hopeless that Watson's Eastern squadron is to be formed

The Madrid Ministry's failure to appreciate that a proiongation of the struggle will only bring more misery and the loss of additional territory has somewhat nettled the Administra tion. Nobody in authority here believes that Camara is going all the way to the Philippine although the presence of 4,000 soldiers on the transports under his command has caused a few officials to have some doubt on the subject. Bus the Administration does not propose to stands and more such threats as that contained in councement that Camara would attempt to retake Manila. Plainly the Admigistrati